

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
----- 103074

P 260225Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4113
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY
COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND PRIORITY
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
COMIPAC HONOLULU PRIORITY

S E C R E T SAIGON 3481

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

NOFORN

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON INFO USDAO SAIGON FROM
AMCONSUL DANANG 25 MAR 75 REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION/INFO. QUOTE.

S E C R E T DANANG 0306

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

NOFORN

EMBASSY FOR POLMIL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, VS
SUBJ: MILITARY SITREP MARCH 25

1. SUMMARY: AS OF 1200 MARCH 25, RADIO CONTACT WITH ARVN UNITS
NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS IS SPORADIC, BUT SOME ELEMENTS OF THE
1ST DIVISION ARE APPARENTLY ATTEMPTING TO FIGHT THEIR WAY OUT
TO DANANG. IN QUANG NAM, ONLY LIGHT ABF'S AND GROUND CONTAC
WERE REPORTED. SOME ARVN AND QUANG TIN SECTOR ELEMENTS HAVE
ASSEMBLED IN SOUTHERN QUANG NAM. QUANG NGAI CITY CAME UNDER
NVA/VC ATTACK ON MARCH 24, AND THAT EVENING ARVN AND TERRITORIAL

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FORCES IN THAT CITY BEGAN A BREAKOUT ATTEMPT TO CHU LAI. IN

SOUTHERN QUANG NGAI, GVN TROOPS HAVE MOVED TO THE SEACOAST FOR SEA EVACUATION TO DANANG. END SUMMARY.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

ON VCRCH 24TH, CONTACT WAS LOST WITH I CORPS FORWARD HQS AND 1ST DIV HQS IN HUE. AS OF NOON MARCH 25, I CORPS FORWARD LIGHT CP WAS REPORTED TO BE ABOARD AN UNIDENTIFIED VNN SHIP. 1ST DIV AND MARINE UNITS ARE REPORTED MOVING SOUTHEAST BY LAND ON THE PENINSULA OF VINH LOC (D), ATTEMPTING TO REACH AND JOIN GVN UNITS AT THE NORTH SIDE OF HAI VAN PASS IN PHU LOC (D), THUA THIEN (P). THE TACTICAL SITUATION REMAINS UNCLEAR EVEN TO I CORPS HQS, DUE TO A LACK OF PORTABLE RADIO EQUIPMENT WITH THE UNITS MOVING NORTH OF HAI VAN PASS.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM (P), THE ONLY PROVINCE CURRENTLY UNDER GVN CONTROL IN MR-1, THERE WERE SCATTERED LIGHT ABF'S AND GROUND CONTACTS IN THE LOWLAND DISTRICTS TO THE EAST. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT WAS A 170 ROED 82MM MORTAR ATTACK AND GROUND CONTACT APPROX 5 KM NW OF QUE SON (D) TOWN ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 24. DURING THE MORNING OF MARCH 25TH THERE WERE RENEWED ABF'S AGAINST SEVERAL RF UNITS, BUT OF LOW INTENSITY.

AS OF NOON MARCH 25, QUANG TIN SECTOR TROOPS AND SOME CIVILIANS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE MOVED TO THE HUONG THUY RESETTLEMENT CAMP NEAR HOI AN IN HIEU NHON (D), QUANG NAM (P).

DURING THE DAY OF MARCH 24TH, QUANG NGAI CITY AND VICINITY WAS SUBJECTED TO GROUND ATTACKS AND ABF'S. AT 2250 HOURS, 2ND DIV LOST RADIO CONTACT WITH QUANG NGAI SECTOR HQS. WHEN RADIO CONTACT WAS REESTABLISHED A SHORT TIME LATER, 2ND DIV UNITS, QUANG NGAI SECTOR, AND TERRITORIAL FORCES NORTH OF THE CITY MOVED TOWARD CHU LAI BASE, 550050. AS OF NOON MARCH 25, THE 6TH REGT WAS REPORTED STILL TRYING TO REACH CHU LAI AND WAS EXPERIENCING HEAVY GROUND CONTACTS WITH NVA/VC FORCES. GVN TROOPS FROM MO DUC AND DUC PHO DISTRICTS MOVED TO THE TRA CAU RIVER MOUTH AT BS850400. SOME UNIDENTIFIED RF AND PF UNITS ARE ALSO REPORTED AT DU QUANG, BS5341, AWAITING TRANSPORT BY SEA. AT PRESENT, VNN NAVY CRAFT ARE ALL BEING UTILIZED IN NORTHERN MR-1 AND ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPORTING THESE TROOPS. QUANG NGAI CITY IS UNDEFENDED AND CONSIDERED LOST. SIGNED FRANCIS. UNQUOTE. LEH

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MANN

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